

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07278 011844Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STR-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01
TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 /094 W
-----027997 011847Z /44

O 011833Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0642
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION GENEVA

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USEEC

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN
PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY AND TREASURY BATF

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, EEC, ETRD
SUBJECT: US - EC WINE

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 6976, (B) EC BRUSSELS A-252,
(C) EC BRUSSELS 5272, (D) 76 EC BRUSSELS A-354,
(E) STATE 144016

1. MISSION WOULD LIKE TO CALL WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION
AGAIN (REFS. A THRU D) TO THE URGENCY OF A US APPROACH
TO THE COMMISSION TO AVOID HAVING US WINES BARRED
FROM EC MARKET SEPTEMBER 1 WHEN EC LABELLING REGULA-
TIONS COME INTO EFFECT. ANY US DEMARCHE TO THE
COMMISSION FOR TEMPORARY POSTPONEMENT OR EXEMPTION
FROM REGULATION MUST COME NO LATER THAN JULY 10.

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AFTER THIS DATE IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR
COMMISSION TO CONSULT WITH MEMBER STATES AND EFFECT
NECESSARY AMENDMENTS BEFORE SUMMER BREAK.

2. FYI REICHARDT HAS TOLD US THAT PRACTICAL WAY
FOR THE US AND EC TO SKIRT THIS ISSUE MAY BE VIA
THE FACT THAT SINCE US EXEMPTED FROM QUALITY

CERTIFICATE ANALYSIS FORM THERE IS NO WAY FOR EC CUSTOMS OFFICIALS TO PROVE THAT A US WINE DOES NOT CONFORM TO EC LABELLING STANDARDS. HE TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT THIS ADVICE MAY BE CONSTRUED AS RATHER HYPOCRITICAL; IN ESSENCE TELLING US THAT WE CAN TRANSGRESS EC RULES AND EC WILL LOOK OTHER WAY. HE ALSO ADMITTED THAT NO WRITTEN FORMAL ASSURANCE COULD BE GIVEN BY THE EC THAT NO US WINE WOULD BE HAMPERED INTO THE EC; HOWEVER THE COMMISSION COULD PROMISE SECRETLY THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO AVOID THIS HAPPENING. END FYI. COMMENT: WHILE WE MAY HAVE TO SETTLE FOR THIS BECAUSE OF TIME PRESSURE, WE FEEL THAT STATUS OF US WINES INTO EC SHOULD BE CLEARLY DEFINED AND PROTECTED, AND FORMAL DEROGATION SHOULD BE OUR MEDIUM-TERM GOAL UNTIL OUR OWN NEW STANDARDS (REF. E) COME INTO EFFECT.

3. MISSION WOULD ALSO LIKE TO STRESS DESIRABILITY OF HAVING US-EC BILATERAL MEETING TO DISCUSS MUTUAL PROBLEMS AND DEVELOPMENTS ON WINE. THESE TALKS SHOULD BE FIXED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. COMMISSION OFFICIALS ARE HIGHLY RECEPTIVE TO THIS IDEA. THEY WISH TO MAINTAIN AN OPEN DIALOGUE WITH US ON WINE AND MAKE SURE WE AVOID TRADE BARRIERS ON BOTH SIDES. THE COMMISSION FEELS IT HAS GONE A LONG WAY ALREADY TOWARDS ACCOMMODATING US DESIRES; E.G., PERMANENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXEMPTION FROM QUALITY CERTIFICATE, DEROGATIONS ON LABELLING STANDARDS. IT IS CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN CONTINUE TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO OUR PROBLEMS. THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THE RECENT BATF PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE US WINE STANDARDS AS A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. THEY WOULD BE PLEASED TO HEAR FURTHER NEWS ABOUT HOW THE PROPOSAL IS PROGRESSING. PERHAPS IF WASHINGTON AGREES TO BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH EC IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, BATF WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO REPORT ON THIS FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGULATIONS, LABELING, WINES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197707100/aaaadipb.tel
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